

4002-2512:251198

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

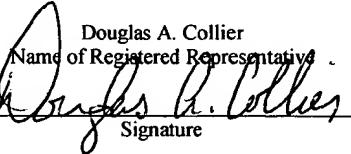
In re patent) Before the Examiner
application of:) Michael B. Priddy
George Frey et al.)
Serial No. 09/694,521) Group Art Unit 3732
Filed October 23, 2000) Atty Docket No. 4002-2512
DEVICES AND TECHNIQUES FOR) January 30, 2004
POSTERIOR LATERAL DISC SPACE)
APPROACH)

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TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

In response to the First Office Action dated 30 October 2003, please consider the following. Additional claim fees are enclosed herewith. Please provide any extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any additional fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 30, 2004.

Douglas A. Collier
Name of Registered Representative

Signature

January 30, 2003

Date of Signature

02/06/2004 MMKONEN 0000029 09694521

01 FC:1201 86.00 OP
02 FC:1202 486.00 OP